

Council Proceedings.

Council Chamber, May 29th, 1882.

The Board of Aldermen met last night, His Worship in the chair. Present, Ald. Pritchard, Birrell, Hunt, Hyman, O'Meara, Jones, Beattie, Ferguson, Higgins, Browne, Minchewick, Crawford, Macbeth, Becher, Peel, Sharman, Murray, Taylor, Skinner, Boyd, Buckle.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

COMMUNICATIONS.

From F. H. Fatt, in reference to the taxes for 1881 on Victoria Hall. No. 1.

From James Lucas, asking for the use of the City Hall on the night of the 12th July for holding an assembly, on payment of current expenses. Referred to City Chamberlain with power.

From Mrs. H. Wolfe, praying that a reduction be made in the rent of her stall in the market bazaar. No. 3.

From James Griffin, asking to have stall No. 14 taken off his hands. No. 3.

From Mr. J. K. Clare, applying for the position of City Treasurer. No. 1.

From Thomas Green and others, asking to have Ridout street, between King and York, watered. Referred to Committee No. 3 with power.

From Mary Donnelly, asking that her taxes for 1881 be remitted. No. 1.

From P. O. William Pope, enclosing the notice of appeal in the case of Geo. Tibbets.

From S. H. Graydon, enclosing an account for drawing deed in duplicate for Thomas Partridge, seur., \$4 50. No. 1.

From Joseph Pigott and James McMartin, asking to be allowed to erect frame sheds on their premises. Granted.

From Thomas Maccox and others, asking that a cedar block pavement be laid on Dundas street, from Richmond to Wellington street. Referred to No. 2, with power.

From Mr. Wm. Webb, as follows:— I am now in the city, and desirous of affording you the opportunity of seeing the production of our new Canadian in-

dustry, the work of "The Ontario Crotchet and Knitting Company, of Ridgetown (Limited)," and having been partially burned out, etc., before building our new place of business, and, being informed of your readiness to encourage any new manufacturing interest, I am desirous before leaving London to know from you what encouragement you will give towards securing in your city such an industry as we have now in operation at Ridgetown. We shall constantly employ from fifty to one or two hundred and fifty constantly. The business is one that will warrant high expectations, and which has already proved itself in its early developments.

Mr. Webb was heard in reference to the matter, and stated that the industry was the only one in the country, and had met with unprecedented success. The capacity of the factory now was from 30 to 50 dozen Berlin wool hood per day. Twenty hands were now employed, and there was no doubt of a rapid increase. The wages paid weekly amounted to \$100, and the work for the year would amount to \$60,000.

Ald. Birrell had been in conversation with Mr. Webb, and from what he had learned it would appear the company expected exemption from taxation for fifteen years and a loan of \$10,000 without interest for ten years. There was not the slightest doubt in his mind but the company would immediately engage 50 hands, and this number would very soon be increased to 100 or 150. The item of wages would be large, and what was asked appeared to be quite reasonable. If the factory was brought here an establishment for the manufacture of the yarn necessary would have to be started, and others would follow in due course. Montreal, Stratford, Guelph and other places were bidding for this factory, and he would favor the reference of the communication to No. 1 Committee. If this were done the committee could meet Mr. Webb be-